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GENERAL

1. Nehru's views concerning Communist aggressiveness--
US Ambassador Henderson in New Delhi reports that in a 20 February conversation which "lasted hours" Prime Minister Nehru displayed more friendliness and seemed to speak with more frankness than in any previous talks. Henderson says, however, that the conversation contained little that was new and Nehru's general theme was that he is not convinced of the "inherent aggressiveness of international Communism." Nehru said both sides, the international Communist world and the Western world, suspect the other of aggressive intent and are preparing to resist. In this situation, India's policy is to restore confidence and to persuade each side the other has no aggressive intentions.

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Nehru believes that arming Germany or Japan might well frighten international Communism and thus precipitate adventures on the part of the USSR or Communist China which might lead to war. He does not believe the Soviet bloc would risk world war by attacking either Germany or Japan, if they were neutralized and left unarmed. He considers that settlement of the Japanese problem in a manner agreeable to Communist China and the USSR is a necessary part of a general Far East settlement.

EUROPE

2. GERMANY: Adenauer-Schumacher views on defense--The US High Commission in Germany transmits its comments on the recent discussion between Chancellor Adenauer and Socialist leader Schumacher on the basic issues facing West Germany. According to the High Commission, the Socialists

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State Dept. review completed

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basic position on defense still differs substantially from that of the government. Adenauer is apparently convinced that the USSR is not ready to start World War III or to invade West Germany; Schumacher fears that such an attack might be "provoked" if West Germany were to make a "premature" decision on its defense contribution, that is, in the absence of sufficient Allied strength in Germany. Schumacher reportedly shares Adenauer's opposition to a solution of a unified and neutralized Germany through a four-power conference; however, Schumacher realizes that West Germany must be prepared to accept such a decision if it is achieved by the conference.

NEAR EAST - AFRICA

3. **FRENCH MOROCCO:** Crisis with French not settled--US Consul McBride in Rabat reports that contrary to previous information French-Moroccan relations appear still to be in a turmoil. According to McBride, the French have apparently abandoned their efforts to overthrow the Sultan of Morocco and are now reportedly threatening to ignore the Sultan and force a rupture of relations with the Moroccan Government if concessions are not forthcoming.



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FAR EAST

4. **INDOCHINA:** Views on possible negotiations-- A French Embassy official in London has expressed the view to the US Embassy that the situation in Indochina, like that in Korea, is now approaching a stalemate and that the establishment of a situation of strength in Indochina might help create an atmosphere conducive to negotiations, presumably with the Chinese Communists. The French diplomat told Embassy London that



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if General de Lattre got the reinforcements he is asking for (understood to be 10 battalions), de Lattre could probably maintain and improve his present relatively favorable position. According to this official, the French are under no illusions concerning Chinese Communist aid to the Viet Minh, but they are as a matter of policy attempting to play down any reference to Chinese assistance and to ignore Chinese intervention as long as possible. Although de Lattre continues to hope it may be possible to engage in on-the-spot negotiations with local Chinese authorities, he has come to realize that the initiative, if any, must come from them.

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